

# WOMEN POLICE TO RID BOSTON OF "MASHERS"

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**Girls Out After Dusk Without Escort  
Are to Carry Whistles in  
the Hub City.**

Boston, Mass., Aug. 10.—'This thing has gone far enough—this masher business. The masher has got to go.'

With these words Mrs. Annie G. Ray sounded the knell of the Boston masher. Mrs. Ray is at the head of a "police force" of five women, organized by the Women's Homestead Association to drive the masher off the street.

The association has issued a bulletin advising every girl who is out after dark to carry a whistle. "If a man speaks to you," the bulletin suggests, "blow, girls. blow, and one of the women police will be near to help you."

The five policewomen carry canes and whistles. They have no official standing, but are paid for their services by the association.

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**Source:** <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045433/1913-08-11/ed-1/seq-1/>

**"Masher":** A man who habitually makes aggressive, unwelcome sexual advances to women.